

Fresno, CA - On Friday, August 12, 2005, Congressman Jim Costa will welcome U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns to Fresno to hear from Valley producers about the status of the 2007 Farm Bill.

"We are pleased to have the Secretary here for several hours to hear about the concerns and challenges that face California agriculture," said Costa. "In the Central Valley, we have a diversity of agriculture and experience in challenging world markets unlike anywhere else in the nation. It is important we state our concerns clearly and make certain the Secretary understands the significance of our role in ag production," Costa stated.

"I also plan to convey to Secretary Johanns my close personal and working relationship with other area legislators. When it comes to speaking up for Valley agricultural interests, Congressmen Radanovich, Cardoza and Nunes and I have developed a bipartisan approach in order to create the strongest advocacy we possible can for Valley agriculture," Costa concluded.

Costa will be available for remarks at 4:00pm.

MEDIA ADVISORY:

What: Comments from Congressman Costa regarding Secretary Johanns' visit to Fresno

When: Friday, August 12, 2005 at 4pm

Where: Fresno County Fairgrounds, Junior Exhibits Building, Ventura and Chance Avenues

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